SELF-LEARNING DEPTH LOGIC FOR MULTI-DEPTH VENDOR CONTROL

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0039]   The disclosed invention is a dispensing apparatus and method for dispensing product from a vending machine. The invention employs a product vend detector to sense when products are dispensed. A controller compares the occurrences of products actually dispensed to the product depth setting assigned to a product dispensing assembly. When vend-completed signals do not match the assigned product setting, the controller initiates a learning mode to determine the actual product depth of the product dispensing assembly and resets the product depth setting to the correct value. The present invention eliminates the need for manual adjustments and eliminates the need to use additional electromechanical components, such as timing cams and switches that are normally used by prior product dispensing systems.